

**REMARKS**

Claims 1, and 3-9 are pending in the present application.

The Examiner has required an election in the present application between:

Species I, FIGS. 1-8;

Species II, FIG. 9

Species III, FIG. 10; and

Species IV, FIG 11.

**For the purpose of examination of the present application, Applicants elect, with traverse, Species I, including claims 1, 3, 4, 5, and 6.**

**A. TRAVERSAL**

It is respectfully submitted that the election of species requirement is improper in view of the fact that a reasonable number of species is set forth in the present application.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider his election of species requirement and act on all of the claims in the present application. If the Examiner does persist in his election of species requirement, the Applicant reserves the right to file one or more divisional applications directed to the non-elected claims at a later date if they so desire.

If the Examiner determines that independent claim 1 is allowable, then all of the claims depending from claim 1 should be rejoined and considered allowable as well.

*Application No.: 10/528,189*  
*Reply dated April 23, 2007*

*Docket No.: 0048-0255PUS1*  
*Art Unit: 3634*

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Carl T. Thomsen (Reg. No. 50,786) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: April 23, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By

James M. Slattery

Registration No.: 28,380

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

8110 Gatehouse Rd

Suite 100 East

P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000

Attorney for Applicant

JMS/CTT/ktp